

## Message Text

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ORIGIN INR-07

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 INRE-00 /029 R

DRAFTED BY INR/CIS:AWLOCKE

APPROVED BY INR: MPACKMAN

S/S: JPMOFFAT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL DORADO IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 68

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: CANCELLATION OF BREZHNEV'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP

1. FOLLOWING ARE FBIS REPORTS ON CANCELLATION OF  
BREZHNEV'S TRIP TO CAIRO, AVAILABLE AS OF 1030 EST:

--(A) FBIS 09--MOSCOW TASS IN ENGLISH 1149Z DECEMBER 30:

"(TEXT) MOSCOW DECEMBER 30 TASS--IN CONFORMITY WITH THE  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LEADERSHIP OF THE SOVIET UNION AND  
EGYPT, SYRIA AND IRAQ UNDERSTANDING WAS REACHED TO POST-  
PONE FOR A LATER DATE THE VISITS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY  
OF THE CC CPSU LEONID BREZHNEV TO THESE COUNTRIES  
SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 1975, IT IS OFFICIALLY REPORTED  
HERE. THE NEW DATE OF THE VISIT, RECIPROCALLY ACCEPTABLE  
TO THE SIDES, WILL BE AGREED UPON LATER."

--(B) FBIS 14--RIYADH DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ARABIC 1100Z

DECEMBER 30: "(TEXT) INFORMED EGYPTIAN SOURCES SAID TODAY  
THAT THE SCHEDULED VISIT BY LEONID BREZHNEV, CPSU CENTRAL  
COMMITTEE GENERAL SECRETARY, TO EGYPT AND TO A NUMBER OF  
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OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES WAS POSTPONED INDEFINITELY OWING TO

CONTINUING DIFFERENCES OVER POLITICAL AND MILITARY ISSUES.

THE SOURCES SAID THAT A JOINT COMMUNIQUE CONCERNING THE POSTPONEMENT WILL BE ISSUED THIS AFTERNOON. THE SAME SOURCES ADDED THAT AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO INFORM

SYRIA AND IRAQ, WHICH WERE INCLUDED IN THE POSTPONED VISIT, OF THE POSTPONEMENT DECISION."

--(C) FBIS 18--CAIRO DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ARABIC 1230Z  
DECEMBER 30: "(TEXT) THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS ISSUED THIS AFTERNOON: IN CONFORMITY WITH THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LEADERS OF THE SOVIET UNION ON ONE HAND AND THE LEADERS OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT, THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC AND THE IRAQI ARAB REPUBLIC ON THE OTHER HAND, IT HAS BEEN AGREED TO POSTPONE TO A LATER DATE THE VISIT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CPSU LEONID BREZHNEV TO THESE COUNTRIES. THE VISIT WAS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN JANUARY 1975. THE NEW DATE OF THE VISIT, ACCEPTABLE TO THE SIDES, WILL BE FIXED LATER."

--(D) FBIS 19--MOSCOW IN ARABIC TO ARAB: "(TEXT) THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE VISIT DUE TO BE PAID BY LEONID BREZHNEV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE, TO EGYPT, SYRIA AND IRAQ, IN JANUARY 1975 HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED IN MOSCOW.

AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN THE LEADERS OF THE SOVIET UNION AND THOSE OF THESE COUNTRIES ON THE INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT OF THE DATES OF THESE VISITS.

IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT MR. ISMA'IL FAHMI, EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, AND LT. GEN. MUHAMMAD 'ABD AL-GHANI AL-JAMASI, EGYPTIAN WAR MINISTER, ARE NOW IN MOSCOW. THEY WERE RECEIVED YESTERDAY, BY LEONID BREZHNEV. DURING THE TALKS BREZHNEV STRESSED THE CONSTANT AND LONG-TERM NATURE OF THE ASSISTANCE AND ALL-ROUND SUPPORT OF THE SOVIET UNION TO THE ARAB PEOPLES, INCLUDING THE PALESTINIAN ARAB PEOPLE, IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JUST AND PERMANENT PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

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ON BEHALF OF EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR AS-SADAT AND OF THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT, THE TWO EGYPTIAN MINISTERS EXPRESSED THEIR THANKS TO THE SOVIET UNION FOR ITS PRINCIPLED AND FRIENDLY ATTITUDE.

THE NEW DATE OF THE VISITS OF LEONID BREZHNEV TO EGYPT, SYRIA AND IRAQ WILL BE AGREED UPON AND ANNOUNCED LATER."

2. ASSESSMENT FOLLOWS SEPTTEL. SISCO

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TOSEC 68  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE283148  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** AWLOCKE  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740377-0386  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 117  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN INR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <30 DEC 2002 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CANCELLATION OF BREZHNEV'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)  
**To:** DORADO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005